May 28, 1971

Dr. Thomas L. Saaty
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4025 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Dr. Saaty,

Thank you for your letter of May 13.

It was good of Dr. Scoville to mention me to you, and of you to
write. I had asked some time ago for more details on the game studies
mentioned in his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee
(ACDA authorization HR 14940) in March 19, 1968. This referred to an
analysis of ABM options which does not seem to be included in your
1968 book, which I have scanned with interest, and intend to peruse
more carefully.

My own work on computers has involved the simulation of inductive
behavior. I have been speculating about applying this approach to
theory-operation in diplomacy, a "theory" here being a draft text of
an agreement to be negotiated. I would relate this to the sets of
strategic options that you have available as input to your game analyses.
Indeed, your game programs might eventually serve as "performance
programs" to test the utility of various hypotheses. However, there are
formidable problems in creating the necessary interfaces, and it may
still be useful to work with less fully formalized filters for the rejection
of the most untenable permutations (like 1.5 in your book).

If you know of other work along these lines, or can offer any other
comments I would be most grateful.

I would also be interested to learn more about the didactic use of
your model programs, and the other foreign and domestic applications
mentioned in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

JL/rr